

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Washington 25, D. C.



Honorable John W. McCormack
Speaker of the House of
Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Transmitted herewith for referral to the appropriate committee is a draft bill "To amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to authorize a Federal Parking System, and for other purposes."

This proposed legislation is part of the legislative program of the General Services Administration for the 88th Congress, 2nd Session.

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the Administrator of General Services to establish and operate a nationwide system of Federal Parking Facilities and Parking Areas to assist in relieving a critical shortage of off-street parking in the immediate vicinity of buildings under the custody and control of General Services Administration occupied by the Federal Government. Under such a program, off-street parking facilities will be acquired and constructed. Designated parking areas will be made available for Government-owned vehicles, the vehicles of visitors to Federal buildings, and privately owned automobiles of Federal employees.

Institution of the initial construction program would await the collection of sufficient parking rates and fees to finance the work. The proposed legislation would authorize the Administrator of General Services to determine the amount of rates and fees to be charged to agencies for official parking facilities and to Federal employees for their use of Government parking space. Agencies requiring official parking facilities, including facilities to accommodate official visitors, would be charged rental rates calculated as a reasonably fair proportionate share of the cost of providing and managing the facilities provided. Employees using Federal Parking Facilities would be charged a fee calculated on the same basis. Both rates and fees would include, also, a minimum element designed to accumulate a fund to be used for the construction of additional parking facilities. Initial capital of the Federal Parking System Fund will be accumulated from income derived from charges to Federal employees for the use of parking spaces in and adjacent to existing buildings occupied by the Federal Government.

It is estimated that the administration of the Federal Parking System can be accomplished by the present personnel strength of GSA with no requirement for additional personnel. We believe that the proposed Federal Parking System offers an opportunity to alleviate a significant transportation and parking problem in metropolitan centers throughout the country by providing off-street parking spaces with the principal portion of the expense of the endeavor being borne by those Federal Employees benefited thereby rather than by the Federal Government.

A more detailed discussion of the proposed amendments to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 377, as amended, is set forth in the enclosed statement of explanation and justification.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that, from the Standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the submission of this proposed legislation to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures

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